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WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the


Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1971

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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Whickham,

Telephone :
Whickham 887141

Newcastle upon Tyne.
July, 1972.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whickham Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1971.

The year shows a natural population increase of 203, whilst the estimated population for the District is 28,730, an increase of 260 over the figure for 1970.

There has been a small increase in the number of births and, correspondingly, in the birth rate relative to last year, this latter being higher than for Durham County and for England and Wales, all three birth rates having risen. The number of deaths has fallen slightly with a corresponding decrease in the death rate for the District, the death rates for Durham County and England and Wales also both having fallen slightly. No deaths arose from pregnancy or other maternal causes. Fourteen infant deaths occurred during 1971.

Cardio-vascular disease accounted for 153 out of a total of 302 deaths, remaining the commonest cause. Malignant disease accounted for a further 66 deaths.

There was a fall in the total number of notified infectious diseases, 114 being recorded compared with 428 in 1970, largely accounted for by a biennial decrease in the number of cases of measles and of whooping cough. Eleven cases of dysentery were notified during the year. No deaths occurred from tuberculosis, 10 new cases were notified and 9 names were removed from the Tuberculosis Register as recovered cases. The total number of cases on the Register at the end of the year was 101 compared with 100 at the end of 1970. Tables 'A' to 'E' on pages 29 to 31 give fuller details. It is of interest to record that no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, smallpox, typhoid or paratyphoid have been notified since 1955 or before.

As detailed in Section III of this Report, immunisation programmes were pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, rubella, smallpox, and tuberculosis. The same Section contains details of the operation in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and the Mobile X-ray Unit.

Health Education has continued through the medium of Health Visitors and other nursing personnel and by the distribution by the Health Department of posters and pamphlets, particularly in relation to the supply of posters to food premises and also to food handlers, who are now much more conscious of their responsibilities. The standard of food premises has been shown, by inspections, to be satisfactory and no particular problems arose during the year. Some details of County Health Education work are given in the appropriate Section of this Report.

The good work of the County Council in the provision of residential accommodation under the National Assistance Act continued, the three hostels in the No. 1 Health Area being used to capacity.

The Meals on Wheels Service has continued to expand, the average number of recipients per week showing an increase relative to that for last year, with a slight increase in the frequency of delivery to recipients resulting in an extra 1,388 meals having been delivered during the year.

Luncheon Clubs have continued to be attended enthusiastically and the total number of meals supplied was 10,201.

The Old People's Welfare Committee remained active as ever and some details of the work carried out by its voluntary members are shown on page 22. The Whickham Group of the British Red Cross Society has continued its visiting service for the old and lonely people. The Chiropody Service, which was commenced in 1965, has continued to function very actively.

The purity of water supplies continued to receive careful supervision, regular sampling being carried out by the Water Undertakings and the Health Department. Supplies were continuous and plentiful and satisfactorily fluoridated throughout the year. The results of bacteriological tests on water samples showed them to be pure and wholesome.

Following the temporary shortage of solid smokeless fuels in 1970, the Whickham (No. 9) Smoke Control Order, 1969, came into operation on 1st May, 1971, and the Whickham (No. 10) Smoke Control Order, 1971, was submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation. It is pleasing to report that the impetus towards clean air, which was lost in 1970, was regained during 1971.

Once again, it is necessary to draw attention to the indiscriminate dumping of rubbish on grass verges and open spaces in spite of the fact that bulky household refuse is collected free of charge and that free tipping facilities are available for other refuse. Unfortunately, the problem seems to be worsening and each year the amount of money spent on cleaning up such refuse is increasing.

Routine inspections, of food premises, and of premises registered in accordance with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, continued to be carried out and it is gratifying to report that infringements discovered during the inspections were of a minor nature and were generally dealt with promptly by proprietors.

Thanks are due to the members of the Health Committee and the Council for their co-operation and understanding which have made the Health Department work the more pleasant and rewarding and were reflected in the good progress in sanitary and health measures which has continued.

I would also record, with appreciation, the enthusiastic and practical support which this Council has given to all welfare activities.

I would thank colleagues in other Departments of the Council for their help and co-operation whenever needed. Health Department employees have continued to maintain a high standard of work and I would express my appreciation to all for the excellent work carried out. The Housing and Welfare Officer has continued to carry out his duties untiringly, most courteously and efficiently. I would congratulate Mr. W. H. Scott, Pupil Public Health Inspector, on passing his final examination of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board and on his appointment to the staff of this Department as Additional Public Health Inspector on 1st July, 1971.

I would express my thanks to the County Medical Officer and his staff for their collaboration, which has never been lacking when required.

The Area Health Clerk, Mrs. Martin, has continued to carry out her duties to the community in her usual efficient manner, her relations with the public in connection with Personal Health Services having been excellent. To her, I am indebted for the collection and compilation of the detailed material in this Report relating to such Services, and her assistance has been very much appreciated.

I would like to thank the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and all other voluntary services in the District for their continued and untiring enthusiasm in carrying out welfare work so unstintingly and efficiently. The willingness of all other Organisations outside of Local Government in collaborating, as in the past, in supplying me with information required, has been greatly appreciated.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

There have been no alterations to the Boundaries of the Urban District. The area is bounded to the North by the River Tyne, to the West by the River Derwent, to the East by the County Borough of Gateshead and the Rural District of Chester-le-Street, and to the South by the Urban District of Stanley.

The District is divided into five Wards viz. :—

Dunston
Marley Hill
Swalwell
Whickham East
Whickham West

1. DUNSTON — has the largest population and is both residential and industrial. The main industries are flour mills, paint works, pre-cast concrete works, saw mills and an electricity generating station.
2. MARLEY HILL — is very scattered and rural, coal mining being the only industry. Due to closures, Marley Hill is now the only working colliery in the Ward.
3. SWALWELL — has as its chief industries engineering, foundry works, brick making and metal working. A screening plant used in connection with opencast coal workings is situated in the northerly part of the Ward.
4. WHICKHAM EAST — is semi-rural in character and is essentially residential. The population finds its employment outside of the Ward.
5. WHICKHAM WEST — is also semi-rural in character and essentially residential. The population finds its employment outside of the Ward.

II.

STATISTICS

General.

Acreage — 6,213.

Number of inhabited houses :

Council 3,522 Other 7,121 Total 10,643

Number of Other Premises : 852.

Rateable Value : £933,319.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £8,890.

Vital.

Population — 1931 — 20,750

1951 — 23,116

1971 — 28,730.

Density of persons per house : 2·699.

Births : Comparability Factor : 0·97.

Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	272	233	505
Rate (per 1,000 population) :	Crude	C.F.	Adjusted
Whickham Urban District	17·58		17·05
Durham County	15·99		15·99
England and Wales	16·04		—

Illegitimate Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	9	15	24
Percentage of total live births :	4·75.		

Still Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	5	3	8
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births :	15·60		
Total Live and Still Births :	513		

Deaths : Comparability Factor : 1·21.

	Male	Female	Total
Number	157	145	302
Rate (per 1,000 population) :	Crude	C.F.	Adjusted
Whickham Urban District	10·51		12·72
Durham County	11·66		13·65
England and Wales	11·62		—

The commonest causes of death during 1971 were :

1. Ischaemic Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	88
2. Malignant Neoplasms at Defined Sites	....	....	....	....	....	....	48
3. Respiratory Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	45
4. Cerebro-vascular Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
5. Other Forms of Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
6. Other Malignant Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	....	....	17 (+1)

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year)

Number	Male 7	Female 7	Total 14	
Infant Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 live births) :				
Whickham Urban District	27·72
Durham County	18·85
England and Wales	17·96
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	29·11
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0·00
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	15·84
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	9·90
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	25·34

Causes of Infant Deaths :

Respiratory Failure	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Bronchiolitis (cot death)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cardiac and Respiratory Failure	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Asphyxia due to aspiration of gastric contents	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Intraventricular Haemorrhage	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Meningomyelocele	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Spina Bifida	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Raised Intracranial Pressure	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Meningitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Placental Insufficiency	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Group D Chromosome Trisomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cardiac Arrest	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

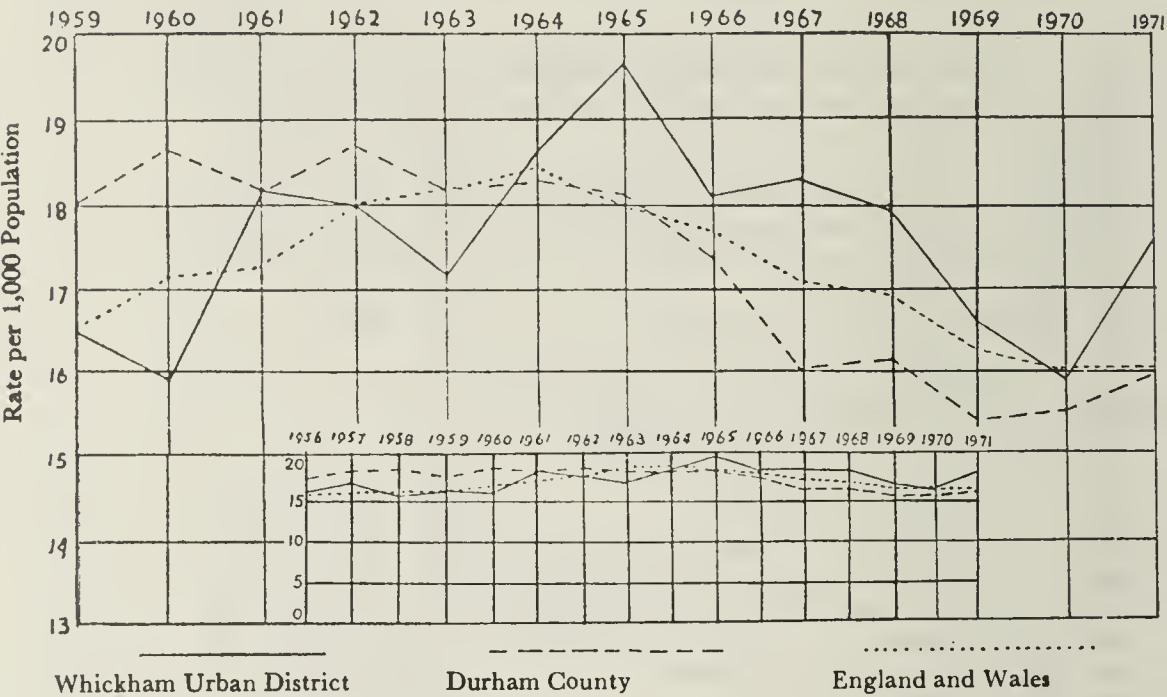
Number of deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0·00

The natural population increase for the year, i.e. the excess of births over deaths, was 203.

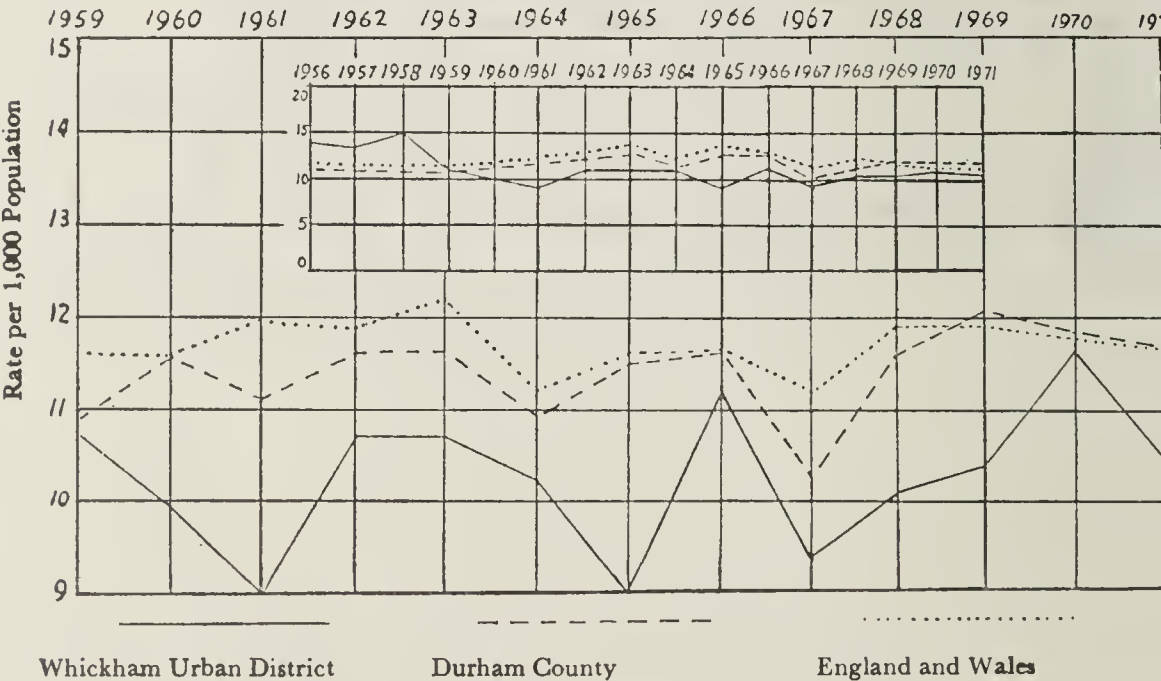
**THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH
DURING 1971**

Cause of Death		Males	Females	Total
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
B19 (1)	Malignant Neoplasm—Buccal Cavity, etc.	—	1	1
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	2	2	4
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm—Intestine	7	4	11
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	17	2	19
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	11	11
B19 (9)	Malignant Neoplasm—Prostate	2	—	2
B19 (10)	Leukaemia	1	—	1
B19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	7	17
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	—	2	2
B24	Meningitis	1	—	1
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	1	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	—	1	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	3	5	8
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	51	37	88
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	7	6	13
B30	Cerebro-vascular Disease	14	21	35
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	6	8
B32	Pneumonia	10	12	22
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	1	13
B33 (2)	Asthma	—	2	2
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	7	8
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3
B35	Appendicitis	—	1	1
B46 (8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	4	3	7
B46 (9)	Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	1	—	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	1	4	5
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1	2
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	1	2
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
BE48	All Other Accidents	3	3	6
BE49	Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	3	—	3
BE50	All Other External Causes	—	1	1
Totals		157	145	302

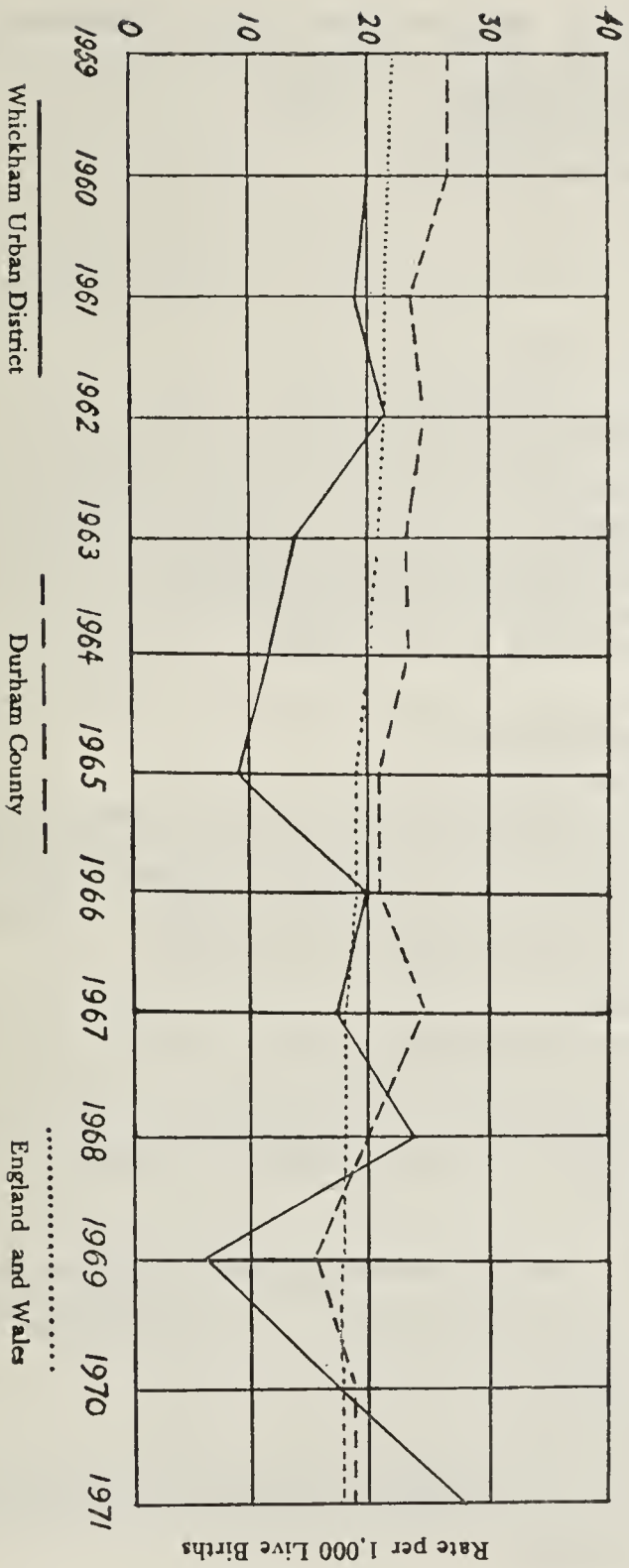
Graph comparing Crude Birth Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1959



Graph comparing Crude Death Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1959



Graph comparing Infant Mortality Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1959



III. PERSONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

SOCIAL SERVICES ACT, 1970.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provision

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board through the North-West Durham and Gateshead Hospital Management Committees.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle, together with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. In-patient treatment can be given at the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead, and in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital, Whickham. The Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital, Whickham, undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 245 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

(i) Midwifery.

The majority of midwifery cases which require hospital treatment are sent to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, or the Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge, and for out-patient treatment to the Gateshead Children's Hospital, in-patient treatment being available also at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead.

(ii) Gynaecology.

Cases of this nature requiring in-patient hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead, the Dunston Hill Hospital, Whickham, or the Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge. Out-patient treatment is available at the Gateshead Children's and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead.

(c) Paediatrics.

There is a paediatric consultative out-patients' service at the Gateshead Children's Hospital. In patients are admitted to Gateshead Children's Hospital and also to Ward 6 of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

(d) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Smallpox.

Provision is made at Langley Park Isolation Hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of smallpox which, should such occur in the District, would be admitted thereto promptly.

(ii) Tuberculosis.

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculous patients in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Normans Riding Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. A central Chest Clinic is established in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. Early diagnosis of such sufferers, and their admission to hospital promptly thereafter, has now been achieved, resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

(iii) Venereal Diseases.

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General practitioners are able to refer patients to the Clinic for necessary investigation and treatment.

(iv) Other Infectious Diseases.

Cases of other infectious diseases requiring isolation are treated at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. In certain cases children can also be admitted to the Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle.

(e) Mental Health.

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Cases of acute or severe mental illness are normally admitted to St. Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(f) Convalescent Home.

The establishment, situate in Ryton Urban District and formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not admit patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 98 beds, 53 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) Laboratory Services.

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, Newcastle General Hospital. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of the Local Authorities, and investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) Blood Transfusion Service.

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary services for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1971, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, and the number of donations which were received on those dates.

Name of Panel	Sessions Centre	Dates of Sessions	Strength of Panel	Attendance
Dunston and district	St. Nicholas' Parish Church Hall	13th January	230	145
		7th July	230	135
		29th December	230	128
Swalwell and district	Swalwell Community Association Hall	1st February	141	58
		26th July	141	67
Whickham and district	Community Association Hall	25th February	426	144
		10th June	426	88
		10th August	426	116
		30th November	426	121

(4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. Since April 1969, a Mobile Mass X-ray Unit has been sited, on Tuesday afternoons, on the waste ground near Thomas Terrace, Blaydon, to which General Practitioners may refer patients for chest X-ray without appointment. The general public also made use of it. The statistics for No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) are given below.

Group	Number X-rayed	Referred in Chest Clinics	Tuberculosis		Neoplasm	Other Conditions
			Treatment	Supervision only		
Doctors referrals	227	36	1	2	2	14
General public	447	22	—	3	1	14
Industry	19	2	—	—	—	1
Contact cases	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total	696	60	1	5	3	29

No sessions were held at industrial establishments in this Area during the year.

Local Authority Provision

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council. It is responsible for the following, with the exception of * items :

Personal Health and Social Services.

- (a) Health Centres
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons
 - (i) Nursing Equipment
 - * (ii) Convalescent Homes
- * (i) Home Help Service
- * (j) Mental Health
- * (k) Other Community Care Services
- (l) Health Education

*Administered by the County Council Social Services Department.

Personal Health Services.

(a) Health Centres.

The Dunston Health Centre, which was completed during 1969, continued to hold clinics for Maternity and Child Welfare, for mothercraft and for relaxation classes, run by County Council staff. A General Practitioner Service is also housed there and an Educational Psychologist attends when required. The Chiropody Service for Dunston is now given in this building.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics, where mothers and children may attend for the treatment of minor ailments of school children, for dental and for sunray treatment, and for maternity and child welfare services, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of the Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District. Welfare foods are also distributed at these Centres. Sessions are held at centres in the District, at which treatment is provided and welfare foods are supplied, as listed below.

	Address of Centre		Sessions
Dunston.	Dunston Health Centre, Dunston Bank	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	Monday afternoons alternate Monday mornings & alternate Friday afternoons
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	Monday afternoons alternate Monday mornings and Friday afternoons
Sunnyside.	Methodist Schoolroom,	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	} Alternate Tuesday mornings
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	
Swalwell.	Village Hall	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Wednesday afternoons 2—4 p.m.
Whickham.	Community Centre, Front Street	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	} Tuesday afternoons & alternate Tuesday mornings
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	

Medical Officers attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are open from 9-30 a.m.—12 noon and from 1-30—4 p.m.; and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.

(c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of any doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner Service organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at Local Health Authority Clinics. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided by the County Council. Residents requiring this service should contact their own doctor. Doctors whose practice they are allocated, are given below.

Name	Medical Practice
Miss M. E. Cree	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Mrs. E. Pearson	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Miss B. M. A. O'Kane	Drs. Aitchison and Cross
	Drs. Fairbairn and Brown
	Dr. Finnerty
	Dr. Simpson

(d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes to give advice to aged or ill persons, to advise expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names of the Health Visitors for the District and the addresses and telephone numbers where they can be contacted, are given below.

Name	Address	Tel. No.
Miss G. Moore	Health Centre, Dunston Bank, Dunston	Dunston 60-5249
Mrs. C. Wilkinson (Part-time)	Health Centre, Dunston Bank, Dunston	Dunston 60-5249
Mrs. J. A. Goodman.... (Part-time)	Health Centre, Dunston Bank, Dunston	Dunston 60-5249
Mrs. K. M. Billinge	Health Centre, Dunston Bank, Dunston	Dunston 60-5249
Mrs. K. Wigham	Health Centre, Dunston Bank, Dunston	Dunston 60-5249

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for this service should be made to a resident's own doctor. The names of the District Nurses, and the Doctors to whose practice they are allocated, are given below.

Name	Medical Practice
Mrs. E. M. Hill	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Mrs. L. Marshall	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Mrs. F. Spriggs	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Miss A. Warren	Drs. Smith, Bell, Smith, Bell and Ropner
Mrs. J. Robinson	Drs. Fairbairn and Brown Dr. Finnerty
Mrs. L. Robinson	Drs. Aitchison and Cross Dr. Simpson

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may be obtained, free of charge, on application to General Medical Practitioners or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available, free of charge, for unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons, on application to General Medical Practitioners, to the County Health Department in Durham, to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Protection is now by oral vaccine.

Yearly schemes are arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the immunisation at school of school children against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained, free of charge, on application to any General Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. The vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years of age is carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Vaccination against measles, for susceptible children under the age of 15 years can be obtained on request from General Medical Practitioners and, for children under 5 years, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Vaccination against Rubella was offered for girls in the 11-13 year age group and carried out by Medical Officers of the County Council at schools or by General Practitioners at their surgeries.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this Report.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4488) which is responsible for such service to the No. 1 Health Area. Messages will be received there at any time as the Centre is always open.

A General Service Depot at Winlaton deals on instructions from Durham with routine work of the above service and is always open.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below:—

Stretcher Cases	Sitting Cases	Journeys	Miles
3,783	29,902	6,633	200,341

(h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.

(i) Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, by Durham County Council on request through General Medical Practitioners, District Nurses or Hospital Almoners. Invalid chairs are also available; and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis.

The under-listed items of equipment can be so supplied :—

Adult Cots	Chairs (Push)	Fracture Boards
Air Rings	Chairs (Junior Push)	Junior Spinal Carriages
Bed Cages	Chairs (Rim-Driven)	Leg Rests
Bed Packs	Commodes	Lifting Poles
Bedpans	Dunlopillo Cushions	Mattresses (Sorbo)
Bedrests	Enuresis Sets	Rubber Sheeting
Bedsteads (Iron)		Urinals

(ii) Convalescent Homes

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and by the County Council; information regarding this can be obtained from the County Council Social Services Department.

Chiropody Service

As part of its responsibilities as the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances the Chiropody Service run by the Old People's Welfare Committee. The actual chiropody treatment is carried out by fully qualified chiropodists and all residents of pensionable age and handicapped persons approved by the County Council are eligible for this service should they require it. Details of this service are set out on page 22.

Cervical Cytology.

Throughout the County, sessions are arranged as the demand justifies. Although no sessions were held in No. 1 Health Area, residents of the District had the opportunity of attending sessions held at Consett but none did so. These tests are also now available at Family Planning Association Clinics throughout the County, where a charge is made for the investigation. The nearest Family Planning Clinic is at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Axwell Park, Blaydon and it is anticipated that a clinic will be opened at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Grange Road, Ryton, in April, 1972.

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is an expectant mother, lying-in, ill, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser for the District, Mrs. Peacock. Anyone wishing to contact her can do so at the Dunston Health Centre, Dunston, between 8-30 and 9-30 a.m. and between 4-0 and 5-0 p.m. daily (Tel. No. Dunston 605249).

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area during the year are given below.

Number of cases at 1-1-71	....	....	....	....	....	827
New cases served during the year	....	....	....	....	....	256
Total number of cases served during the year	....	....	....	....	....	1,083
Cases terminated during the year	....	....	....	....	....	242
Cases served at 31-12-71	....	....	....	....	....	841
Number of Home Helps employed at 31-12-71	....	....	....	....	....	502
Visits made by Assistant Organisers during year	....	....	....	....	....	5,400

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Mental Health Act, 1959, the Local Health Authority is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after-care, of the mentally sick and the educationally subnormal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County is situated at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Subnormal

which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swallowwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

Additionally, some educationally sub-normal children from No. 1 Health Area continue to attend daily the Training Centre at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe.

Statistics are given below of the number of residents from this District being cared for or supervised by County Council staff as a responsibility under this Act.

No. of Persons registered as Mentally Subnormal	No. of Persons under Supervision	No. of Persons in Hospitals
80	57	23

(k) Other Community Care Services.

Details of staff employed in the District on this work can be obtained by reference to the Social Services Department at County Hall, Durham. (Tel. No. Durham 4411).

(1) Health Education.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Local Health and Local Sanitary Authorities have power to arrange programmes of health education within their area of jurisdiction. Additionally, Local Health Authorities are further authorised in this respect in various sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The County Council Health Education Section continued to maintain a comprehensive service to all members of the community including General Practitioners, Health Department Staffs, Industry, Hospitals, Adult Organisations, Community Groups and Educational Establishments in the form of help and advice on Health Education Projects, Displays, Content of Talks, Health Education topics and specific campaigns as required.

Increasing use was made by persons in the Districts of the visual aid resources available from the Health Education Section; these include such equipment as projectors and screens as well as films, slides, tape recordings, photographs, flannelgraphs and posters and pamphlets.

Additionally, every two months, material is published on a particular topic and issued to all the Child Health Clinics and to other members of the community on request. During 1971 such publications included the following subjects :—

- Dental Health
- Food
- Hygiene
- Cigarette Smoking
- Immunisation and Vaccination
- Mental Health/Noise
- Home Safety/Fireworks/Christmas

The material published for May/June and September/October formed part of two intensive County-wide campaigns on Cigarette Smoking and Mental Health/Noise respectively.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Local Sanitary Authority for the Urban District is the District Council, and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

(a) Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored and financed by this Council and run by the Whickham Branch of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was commenced in 1963. At the beginning of the year, 160 recipients were catered for, 80 of whom had hot meals delivered three times per week and the remainder twice per week. The following figures show the phased increase during 1971.

Period	No. of recipients	2 times per week	3 times per week	5 times per week	Total No. of meals
January/March	.... 164	82	80	2	5,018
April-June	.... 167	79	84	4	5,138
July-September	.... 164	81	81	2	5,213
October-December	.... 177	87	89	1	5,243

Total number of meals delivered during year — 20,612

(b) Old People's Welfare Committee.

This Committee continued to hold its usual quarterly meeting in the Council Chamber. Praiseworthy progress has continued and the Committee remains a very active body.

I have to report that all four Luncheon Clubs referred to in my 1970 Report have continued in operation at the same high level. No further Chiropody Clinics have been opened during the year but all four reported on in 1971 have continued their activities satisfactorily and comparably with the work done in 1970.

(i) Luncheon Clubs.

Details of each Luncheon Club are given below.

Club	Date of Opening	Number on Register	Number of Sessions per week	Average Attendance per Session
Dunston	11- 3-65	67	1	62
Whickham	13-10-65	40	1	35
Swalwell	20- 4-66	52	1	50
Marley Hill	5-10-66	50	1	49

(ii) Chiropody.

Details of each Chiropody Clinic at the end of 1971 are given below.

Centre	Date of Opening	Number of Sessions per month	Persons over Pensionable Age		Handicapped Persons below Pensionable Age	
			Number treated	Number of Treatments	Number treated	Number of Treatments
Dunston	27-7-65	10	257	804	4	12
Swalwell	29-7-65	8	172	762	—	—
Whickham	22-2-65	10	238	814	—	—
Marley Hill	6-1-66	8	165	853	—	—

Total number of persons treated 836

Total number of treatments given 3,245

(c) General Welfare.

Once again I would report on the efficient and enthusiastic work carried out for the welfare of the community by the Housing and Welfare Officer and would comment on the high standard of such work which he has maintained.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic, Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1963.

Family Case Conferences.

It was not found necessary during 1971 to call comprehensive meetings of this nature, any cases being dealt with by individual officers of the County Council.

EDUCATION ACT, 1944.

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. These are the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for systematic medical inspection, by routine attendances at schools of a Medical Officer, and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where Medical and Dental Officers attend on a sessional basis.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination or treatment, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. When necessary, arrangements are made for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACTS, 1924-1957.

Aged Persons Accommodation.

Under the Housing Acts 1924-1957, the Council has provided two Housing Units, each consisting of 32 bed-sitting accommodation with a resident warden, and 16 1-bedroomed bungalows and 16 bungalows with bed-sitting accommodation and a dwelling for a resident warden. In addition, 80 bungalows and 125 flats have been provided for aged persons.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951.

Section 21—Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at :—

Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton	Tel. No. Blaydon	2900.
"The Hermitage", Front Street, Whickham.	Tel. No. Whickham	887372.
Tynedale House, Ryton.	Tel. No. Ryton	2009.

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can be admitted also to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 20 residents of the District, 4 males and 16 females, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes. It has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. While there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and of the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, recourse to compulsory powers is rarely needed.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary under this part of the Act.

IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVALENCE

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 114 as compared with 428 in 1970.

Table comparing Numbers of Notifications during the years 1970/71

	Number of Cases 1970				Number of Cases 1971			
	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory
	M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	Total	
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	—	1	1	—	11	5	16	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	7	4	11	11
Food Poisoning	2	1	3	3	2	4	6	6
Infective Jaundice	20	14	34	—	2	1	3	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leprosy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leptospirosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	117	129	306	—	32	22	54	—
Whooping Cough	28	34	62	—	1	—	1	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Other Quarantinable Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	8	9	17	—	10	3	13	—
Tuberculosis :								
Respiratory	2	1	3	—	5	—	5	—
Meninges and C.N.S.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	1	1	2	—	1	4	5	—
Totals	238	190	428	3	71	43	114	17

* The following are quarantinable diseases :
Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever

INCIDENCE OF PRINCIPAL DISEASES SINCE 1955

Year	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Typhoid and Paratyphoid		Measles		Whooping Cough		Tuberculosis	
	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths
1955	9	—	—	—	—	—	518	—	196	—	29	2
1956	134	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	61	—	42	4
1957	97	—	—	—	—	—	749	—	58	—	24	4
1958	8	—	—	—	—	—	54	—	141	—	19	2
1959	77	—	—	—	—	—	462	—	26	—	17	5
1960	39	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	27	—	12	1
1961	12	—	—	—	—	—	629	—	10	—	13	1
1962	3	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	7	—	15	2
1963	11	—	—	—	—	—	539	—	8	—	9	1
1964	34	—	—	—	—	—	120	—	13	—	12	1
1965	50	—	—	—	—	—	425	—	18	—	7	—
1966	34	—	—	—	—	—	324	—	32	—	10	—
1967	7	—	—	—	—	—	193	—	18	—	8	1
1968	2	—	—	—	—	—	354	—	—	—	5	—
1969	8	—	—	—	—	—	73	—	—	—	5	—
1970	17	—	—	—	—	—	306	—	62	—	5	1
1971	13	—	—	—	—	—	54	—	1	—	10	—

**TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1971
SHOWING MONTHLY AND WARD DISTRIBUTION**

Diseases	MONTHS												Totals	WARDS				
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		Dunston	Marley Hill	Swalwell	Whickham East	Whickham West
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	1	2	4	—	2	16	14	1	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	4	2	—	11	4	7	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	1	6	1	—	—	2	3
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leprosy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leptospirosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	3	5	22	19	54	51	1	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Other Quarantinable Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	1	4	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	1	1	13	11	1	—	1	—
Tuberculosis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	4	—	1	—	—
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	2	—	—	2
Totals	2	3	4	3	4	10	5	6	7	15	26	29	114	90	12	1	5	6

*The following are quarantinable diseases :

Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever.

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
SHOWING AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION DURING 1971

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Age Group										
		Under 1 year	1 — 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 — 9 years	10 — 14 years	15 — 19 years	20 — 24 years	25 — 44 years	45 — 64 years	Over 65 years	Age Unknown
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	16	1	1	2	3	2	4	—	3	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	11	1	2	1	4	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	6	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leprosy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leptospirosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	54	3	12	10	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Other Quarantinable Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	13	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis :												
Respiratory	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	5	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals	114	6	17	21	44	3	4	3	6	6	4	—

* The following are quarantinable diseases :—

Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever.

Diphtheria.

For the 23rd year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were notified.

Dysentery.

Eleven cases of dysentery were notified during the year and routine preventive measures and investigations were carried out.

Food Poisoning.

Six cases of salmonella infection were notified. Routine investigations were carried out to determine the source of infection but without success, but causal organisms were determined.

Paratyphoid Fever.

There have been no cases confirmed since 1952.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases have been notified for 15 years.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of typhoid fever have been notified since 1938.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox have been notified since 1931.

Scarlet Fever.

Thirteen cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year compared with 17 in 1970.

Home treatment of this disease is practised where satisfactory isolation arrangements are possible which obtained in all cases. There were no cases requiring admission to hospital.

Tuberculosis.

Ten cases of tuberculosis, 5 respiratory and 5 non-respiratory, were notified. Detailed figures are shown in Tables 'A' to 'E'.

It was not necessary to take any action under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment in dairies of persons suffering from tuberculosis; nor was action necessary under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Table A — Cases Notified during 1970 and 1971 (including inward transfers).

Year		Total	Dunston	Marley Hill	Swalwell	Whickham	
						East	West
1971	Respiratory	5	4	—	1	—	—
	Non-Respiratory	5	1	2	—	2	—
	Totals	10	5	2	1	2	—
1970	Totals	6(1)	3(1)	—	1	1	1

() shows number of inward transfers

Table B—Age group distribution of new cases notified (including inward transfers)

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	3
15—24	—	—	—	—
25—34	—	—	1	—
35—44	—	—	—	—
45—54	3	—	—	—
55—64	1	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	1
Age not known....	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	—	1	4

Table C—Comparative Table of Registered Tuberculosis Sufferers.

Sex	No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year 1971		No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1971	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
Male	48	8	48	8
Female	38	6	35	10
Totals	86	14	83	18

Table D — Removals from the Tuberculosis Register during 1971.

Reasons	Totals	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
Removed from District	—	—	—	—	—
Recovered	9	5	3	1	—
Deceased	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	9	5	3	1	—

Table E — Tuberculosis Incidence 1955-1971.

Year	Urban District of Whickham						Administrative County of Durham			England and Wales		
	Incidence			Attack Rate			Attack Rate			Attack Rate		
	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.
1955	26	3	29	1.121	.129	1.250	.771	.125	.896	.756	.102	.858
1956	39	3	42	1.561	.128	1.689	.746	.116	.862	.701	.092	.793
1957	18	6	24	.754	.251	1.005	.683	.116	.799	.644	.085	.729
1958	16	3	19	.662	.124	.786	.637	.097	.734	.586	.076	.662
1959	13	4	17	.533	.164	.697	.509	.082	.591	.534	.062	.596
1960	8	4	12	.321	.160	.481	.497	.068	.560	.455	.061	.516
1961	9	4	13	.352	.166	.518	.438	.077	.515	.412	.058	.470
1962	13	2	15	.512	.079	.591	.444	.063	.507	.382	.057	.439
1963	6	3	9	.233	.117	.350	.363	.060	.423	.348	.055	.403
1964	12	nil	12	.457	—	.457	.332	.067	.399	.321	.054	.375
1965	7	nil	7	.259	—	.259	.263	.051	.314	.274	.053	.337
1966	7	3	10	.254	.109	.363	.303	.036	.339	.256	.047	.303
1967	8	nil	8	.287	—	.287	.288	.027	.315	.228	.045	.274
1968	5	—	5	.177	—	.177	.284	.033	.317	.220	.047	.267
1969	4	1	5	.141	.035	.177	.217	.040	.257	.198	.051	.249
1970	3	2	5	.105	.070	.176	.212	.041	.254	.194	.049	.243
1971	5	5	10	.174	.174	.348	.193	.034	.227	.187	.053	.240

R. Respiratory. N.R. Non-Respiratory. T. Total

Attack Rate — Incidence per 1,000 population

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles, Poliomyelitis, Rubella, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, of residents in the District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection can be given separately or jointly against each of these infections. Details of the work undertaken through health services in this District are given below.

Diphtheria.

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	Others under 16	Total
Primary	.... 1	251	63	20	30	1	366
Boosters	.... —	—	16	4	472	3	495

Whooping Cough.

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	Others under 16	Total
Primary	.... 1	251	63	20	2	1	338
Boosters	.... —	—	14	2	20	1	37

Tetanus.

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	Others under 16	Total
Primary	.... 1	251	63	20	30	8	373
Boosters	.... —	—	14	4	471	21	510

Measles.

Details of the number of vaccinations given during the year 1971 are set out below.

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	Others under 16	Total
	—	198	161	84	31	1	475

Poliomyelitis.

Details of the number of primary vaccinations and booster doses given during the year 1971 are set out below.

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	Others under 16	Total
Primary	.... 1	255	67	20	39	1	383
Boosters	.... —	—	15	4	360	4	383

Rubella.

380 schoolgirls in the 11-13 year age group were given protection against Rubella by the Area Health Services in schools, and by General Practitioners at their surgeries.

Smallpox.

Details of the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations given during 1971 are set out below.

Primary Vaccination				
Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
1	79	32	9	121

Re-Vaccination				
Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
—	—	6	7	13

Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

Details of the programmes of B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in 1971 are given below.

	No. Vaccinated	No. Heaf Positive	Non-Consents	Total in Age Group
Dunston Hill Secondary	69	14	7	105
Whickham Secondary	199	46	13	295
	<u>268</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>400</u>

V. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Environmental Health Provisions

1. Water Supply

The Dunston, Swalwell and the greater part of the Whickham Wards are supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company: and the Marley Hill Ward and a small part of the Whickham Wards are supplied by the Durham County Water Board.

With the exception of one house, all dwelling houses in the District are supplied by direct mains. Chemical and bacteriological samples of the private water supply proved to be satisfactory.

The mains water was of good quality, the supply being continuous and plentiful. 10 samples were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination, all samples being found to be satisfactory.

The following are details of the houses and population supplied :—

Houses supplied by direct mains at April, 1971	10,643
Population supplied by direct mains	28,729

I am indebted, to Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and to Durham County Water Board, for reports the substance of which appear below.

Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

A total of 1,032 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's Laboratory during the calendar year ended 31st December, 1971, and, of these, 96.56% were satisfactory.

In addition to the foregoing, other samples examined included :—

252 from Warkworth Filters at Longbenton Governor House, 209 from special fixed sampling points and 11 at random in the area.

9,604 dwellings in the District were supplied by the Company.

The following new mains were laid in the Urban District during this period :—

33 linear yards of 2" diameter pipes
494 linear yards of 3" diameter pipes
1,879 linear yards of 4" diameter pipes
228 linear yards of 6" diameter pipes
13 linear yards of 8" diameter pipes
11 linear yards of 12" diameter pipes

Fluoridation has been practised at the supplying filters since October, 1968 and the fluoride content has been maintained since July, 1969 at a level of 1 part per million.

Durham County Water Board.

Below are details of water supplies classified according to the type of premises and whether domestic or on meter :—

	Domestic	Meters	Total
Dwelling houses	1,066	30	1,096
Premises used partly as dwelling accommo- dation and partly used for other purposes	3	6	9

Bacteriological Samples

Of the 14 samples taken at random in the District 92.86% were satisfactory.

Work carried out in the Urban District has been in connection with the usual extension of mains.

The natural fluoride content in the water supplied to Whickham Urban District was, prior to the 18th September, 1970, between 0.15 and 0.6 parts per million when fluoridation was introduced bringing the fluoride content to the maintenance level of 1 part per million.

2. Rivers and Streams

Complaints were received of crude sewage discharging from the Sunnyside main outfall sewer into the Black Burn during the storm conditions and a scheme, outlined below, was commenced to overcome this problem.

3. Closet Accommodation

With the exception of several farms and isolated houses where sewers are not available, all houses in the District are provided with water closets.

Efforts continued to be made to eliminate privies and other closets and the number has shown a slight reduction during the year.

The following table summarises closet accommodation.

Water closets	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	11,553
Privies	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
Closets other than water closets	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse

The collection and disposal of all household and trade refuse continued to be organised so as to enable a collection to be made from all premises at least once per week.

Refuse collection was carried out by two Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic 50 cubic yard capacity compression vehicles, by a Shelvoke and Drewry 25 cubic yard fore and aft tipping vehicle and by a Bedford/Eagle Crushload 50 cubic yard compression vehicle, held as a spare in case of breakdowns.

Whilst the volume of refuse collected continued to increase, the weight again showed a decrease, the estimated weight collected during the year being 14,600 tons, this represents 27.14 cwts. per 1,000 population per day.

The disposable sack system continued to be extended in 1971 and, by the end of the year, 3,026 houses were provided with disposable sack units.

Tipping continued on the refuse tip rented from Blaydon Rugby Football Club, Swalwell, refuse being levelled and covered with soil by the use of a J.C.B. Tractor with shovel attachment.

5. Drainage and Sewerage

With the exception of the Dam Head Sewage Disposal Works taking the drainage from 437 houses on the Clavering Park and Clavering Grange Estates, Whickham, most of the sewage from the District continued to be discharged, untreated, directly into the Rivers Derwent and Tyne.

During the year, a scheme was commenced to provide two surface water overflow chambers on the Sunnyside main outfall sewer to overcome the problem of the dis-

charge of sewage into the Black Burn in storm conditions and, by the end of the year, one was completed and work was in hand on the second.

6. Atmospheric Pollution

(a) Measurement

Daily readings were taken from a Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide Recorder and Combined Smoke Filter installed in the Health Department.

Volumetric SO₂ Recorder and Combined Smoke Filter — 1971

	Smoke Concentration in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre of Air			SO ₂ in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre of Air		
	Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Monthly Average	Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Monthly Average
January	260	23	102	200	24	95
February	260	23	106	200	23	104
March	108	16	45	355	26	86
April	86	18	41	162	31	68
May	58	4	22	205	16	44
June	35	4	16	86	17	50
July	39	5	17	59	6	31
August	24	6	13	51	14	23
September	99	15	49	81	12	40
October	184	32	78	164	30	51
November	127	23	62	99	18	57
December	54	6	31	68	20	45

(b) Domestic Smoke

The Whickham No. 9 Smoke Control Order, 1969 which had been postponed for six months came into operation on 1st May.

The Whickham No. 10 Smoke Control Order, 1971 which was made by the Council on 22nd July, was confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment on 15th October and comes into effect on 1st July, 1972.

By the end of the year, 3,488 premises and 1,232 acres of land were subject to Smoke Control Orders.

It is pleasing to note that approximately one-third of all the premises in the Whickham Urban District are now situated within smoke control areas.

(c) Industrial Smoke

On several occasions, attention again had to be drawn to emissions of black smoke from chimneys of the Dunston Power Station. In every instance this was caused by loads being increased.

The Central Electricity Generating Board have given an undertaking that, at all times, excepting when to do so would jeopardise the electricity supply system, load will be reduced on the station in order to control the emissions.

The Alkali Inspector, who is responsible for the inspection of the plant, kept in touch with the Department during the year and good relationships continued to be maintained.

On several occasions attention had to be drawn to emissions of black smoke caused through burning materials in the open air, but it was not found necessary to take formal action.

(d) Spoil Banks

There has been no evidence of nuisance from spoil heaps in the District.

7. Noise Abatement

Two complaints of noise were received during the year, one arising from the use of pneumatic road drills and the other regarding the barking of a dog locked in the house when the owner was at work during the day.

Both complaints were dealt with without recourse to formal action.

8. Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites

There is only one licensed caravan site in the District; no more than 4 caravans can be parked on this site at any one time. It is well kept and it was not found necessary to draw the site-owner's attention to any contraventions of the conditions of the licence.

It was not found to be necessary to take any action in respect of any unauthorised site users in the District.

9. Offensive Trades

No establishment, defined as "offensive trade" under Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936, operated in the District.

10. Shops Act, 1950

The Council is a Shops Act Authority.

32 visits were made for the purposes of the Act and to ensure that the statutory closing hours were observed.

11. Factories

43 inspections were made during the year; the work carried out is shown in the Appendix to this Report.

12. Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

13. Licensed Premises and Clubs

These are listed in the Register of Food Premises and were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

14. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

(a) Rodent Control	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in the District....	11,452	43
2. (a) No. of properties inspected following notification	175	12
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	64	9
(ii) Mice	90	1
3. (a) No. of properties inspected other than by notification	105	23
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	83	23
(ii) Mice	2	3

Sewer treatments were carried out regularly throughout the year.

(b) Insect Control

As with rats and mice, the Department carry out remedial measures free of charge to householders, a charge being made for business premises. 141 treatments were carried out during the year, the details of the infestations dealt with being as follows.

Insect	Dwelling Houses	Others
Ants	4	1
Bed Bugs	3	—
Clover Mite	6	—
Cockroaches	59	8
Earwigs	8	—
Fleas	19	1
Flies	4	—
Wasps	28	—
	131	10

15. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Routine inspections of premises, registered in accordance with the above Act, were carried out. Contraventions found were again generally of a minor nature and it was not found to be necessary to take any formal action to have notices complied with.

Three accidents were reported during the year, all being of a minor nature and not being due to any negligence on the part of the employers.

The following table shows contraventions of the Act discovered during the year:—

Sec	Number of Contraventions found	Sec	Number of Contraventions found
4	Cleanliness 25	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) —
5	Overcrowding —	15	Eating facilities —
6	Temperature 1	16	Floors, passage and stairs 7
7	Ventilation 1	17	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery —
8	Lighting 2	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery.... —
9	Sanitary Conveniences 8	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery —
10	Washing facilities 4	23	Prohibition of heavy work.... —
11	Supply of drinking water —	24	First Aid 2
12	Clothing accommodation —		Other matters 3
13	Sitting facilities —		TOTAL 53

REGISTRATION

Class of Premises	Number of pre- mises registered during the year	Total number of registered pre- mises at end of year	Number of reg- istered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	2	33	3
Retail shops	3	99	52
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	3	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	29	3
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—
Totals	5	165	58

Number of visits by inspectors to all kinds of registered premises 127.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	296
Retail shops	354
Wholesale shops, warehouses	42
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens....	179
Fuel storage depots	12
Total	883
Total Males	575
Total Females	308

16. Cinemas

There are no cinemas in operation in the District.

17. Swimming Baths

The Dunston Swimming Baths have 2 pools, one of which is for learners.

The water in the swimming pools is purified by re-circulation through sand pressure filters. The Break Point Chlorination Process is employed in sterilising the water whereby a free chlorine residual of between 1·0 and 2·0 parts per million is maintained. The free chlorine forms at least 75 per cent of the total chlorine.

The swimming pools are heated by low pressure hot water calorifiers and pool temperatures are maintained at 78°F. and 80°F. in summer and winter respectively.

Admissions to the swimming pools and Sauna Baths were as follows :

Adults	....	....	....	....	48,371
Children	....	.....	....	....	100,139
Spectators	....	....	....	....	20,089
Sauna Bath	....	....	....	....	9,570
Sun Lamp	....	....	....	....	120
Sauna Bath and Sun Lamp....					6,534

24 samples of swimming bath water were found to be satisfactory following bacteriological examination.

18. Disinfection of Houses

There was again no demand during the year for the issue of free disinfectant nor was it found to be necessary to carry out any disinfection of houses.

19. Mortuaries

The Swalwell mortuary was closed and demolished during the year, the only mortuary left in the District being situated at Dunston.

20. Schools

The condition of all schools throughout the District was satisfactory.

21. Recreation Grounds

The recreation parks at Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell add considerably to the amenities of the District. Gardens, pavilions, bowling greens, children's playgrounds, a paddling pool and a children's zoo are provided. The provision of these amenities make a notable contribution to the general health and wellbeing of the community.

22. Riding Establishments

There is one licensed Riding Establishment in the District. Regular visits were made on behalf of the Council by a local Veterinary Surgeon who reported that he was satisfied with the condition of the premises and of the animals.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied

	No. of Inspec- tions	No of Informal Notices served	No. of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Notices	Legal Proceed- ings and General Remarks
Housing :—					
Public Health and Housing Acts	573	53	—	48	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
Defective	7	1	—	—	—
Drainage	63	6	—	6	—
Water Supply	41	4	—	4	—
Food Premises/Unfit Food	203	24	—	5	—
Moveable Dwellings	5	—	—	—	—
Factories Act, 1961	43	1	—	1	—
Clean Air Act, 1956	1,596	518	54	322	—
Smoke Nuisances	38	12	—	12	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	73	1	—	1	—
Refuse Collection and Disposal	503	9	—	2	—
Accumulation of Refuse	24	5	—	3	—
Infectious Diseases	306	—	—	—	—
Housing Act, 1969—					
Standard Grants	520	—	—	—	—
Qualification Certificates	298	—	—	—	—
Dirty or Verminous Premises	2	1	—	1	—
Sampling	47	—	—	—	—
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	4	2	—	2	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Pre- mises Act, 1963	127	21	—	3	—
Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964	2	—	—	—	—
Totals	4,475	658	54	410	—

(B) Inspection and Supervision of Food

1. Milk and Milk Products

This District is part of a specified area in which only milk of special designation may be sold.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production, at the 6 dairy farms in the District, is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies.

There were no dairies in the District registered under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959.

Distributors and Retailers.

The County Council are responsible for licensing, and also undertake milk sampling, in respect of milk of special designation.

Milk Sampling.

126 samples, of various designated milks, were taken by the Durham County Council Health Department from milk distributors, schools and hospitals in the District.

The following table shows the results of such tests :—

Class of Milk	No. Taken	Appropriate Test	No. Passed	No. Failed
Untreated	1	Methylene Blue	—	—
		Animal Innoculation	—	—
		Antibiotic	—	—
Pasteurised	92	Methylene Blue	92	—
		Phosphatase	92	—
		Antibiotic	—	—
Sterilised	29	Turbidity	29	—
U.H.T.	5	Colony Count	5	—

Diseases from Milk.

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream.

One factory continued to be registered for the manufacture of ice cream, manufacturing being carried out under satisfactory conditions.

Five samples were taken for bacteriological examination, two of which were found to be Provisional Grade I, two others Provisional Grade II, and the other Provisional Grade III.

By the end of the year, 80 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

2. Meat and Meat Products

Meat.

There is no slaughterhouse in this District.

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, one slaughterman's licence was renewed for a period of twelve months.

Meat Products.

44 lbs. of canned and other meats were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

3. Poultry and Poultry Products

There are no premises in the area registered for the stunning of turkeys or domestic fowls before slaughter in accordance with Section 2 of The Slaughter of Poultry Act, 1967.

4. Other Foods

Twenty articles of food, which were alleged by the purchasers to be not of the nature or substance or quality expected at the time of purchase, were brought to the notice of the Health Department and given below is a brief summary of same and of the measures taken.

Article of Food	Complaint	Remarks
1 Pre-packed pork sausage	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 x 1-lb. pork sausage	Unfit	Not substantiated
1 tin chopped ham and pork	Decomposed	Letter of caution sent to importer.
1 packet frozen cod	Foreign matter	Not substantiated.
1 packet fish cakes	Unfit	Not substantiated.
1 bottle pasteurised milk	Dirty bottle	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 carton fruit yoghurt	Packing material in carton	Letter of caution sent to manufacturers.
1 x ½-lb. pre-packed butter	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 packet tea	Contained cigarette end	Letter of caution sent to manufacturers.
1 packet rice	Contained moth larvae	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 packet processed cheese....	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 chocolate eclair	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 walnut cake	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 fruit tart	Contaminated by dust	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 bilberry tart	Contained cigarette end	Letter of caution sent to manufacturers.
1 loaf bread	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 loaf bread	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 loaf bread	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 loaf bread	Mouldy	Letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 loaf bread	Contained insect	Letter of caution sent to manufacturers.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered by traders after being found to be unfit for human consumption. Disposal was by burial on the Council's refuse tip.

Canned and other meats	44 lbs.
Other canned foods	2 cwts. 110 lbs.
Frozen foods	6 cwts. 63 lbs.

5. Food Premises

The following is a summary, of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried out in them.

Type of Premises	No.	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakers	5	5	5	5
Ice Cream Manufacturer	1	1	1	1
Catering Premises	20	20	20	20
Butchers	17	17	17	17
Fish Shops—				
Fried Fish	11	11	11	11
Wet Fish	1	1	1	1
Grocers	21	21	21	21
Greengrocers	13	13	13	13
General Dealers	30	30	30	30
Confectioners (Sweets)	13	13	13	13
Confectioners (Cakes)	8	8	8	8
Chemists	7	7	7	7
Licensed Premises	34	34	34	34
Off-Licence Premises	6	6	6	6

Inspections

203 visits were made to food premises in the District and it was only found necessary to serve 24 notices drawing attention to the infringement of Regulations.

Generally, where notices are served on traders they recognise their obligations and notices are complied with promptly and standards of food hygiene in the District are satisfactory.

6. Food Sampling

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List of Samples taken in the Whickham Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, during the year ended 31st December, 1971.

	30 Milk
Informal	2 Milk
	1 Pease Pudding
	1 Fish Cakes

	1 Butter
	2 Beef Sausage containing preservative
Informal	1 Beef Sausage containing preservative
Informal	1 Steak and Kidney Pie
Informal	1 Pork Pie
Informal	1 Cherry Fruit Pie
Informal	1 Real Fruit Pineapple Yogurt, low fat
Informal	1 Yogurt, low fat
Informal	1 Fresh Dairy Cream Cake
Informal	1 Coffee and Cream Gateau
Informal	1 Fresh Double Cream
	1 Grapefruit and Orange segments in syrup
	1 Barley
	2 Desiccated Coconut
	1 Ground Rice
	1 Pineapple Tidbits in syrup
Informal	1 Cheese Spread with Smokey Bacon
Informal	1 Raspberry Pie
Informal	1 Lem Sip
Informal	1 Rhubarb in Syrup
	1 Rhubarb in Syrup
	1 Macaroni
	1 Mandarin Orange in light syrup
	1 Sparkling Orange Drink
Informal	1 Instant Non-fat Milk
Informal	1 Fancy Pink Salmon
Informal	1 Pilchards in tomato sauce
Informal	1 Pork Luncheon Meat
	1 Prunes in syrup
Informal	1 Epsom Salts B.P.
Informal	1 Sandwich Cake with orange flavoured filling
Informal	1 Potato Croquettes
Informal	1 Cornish and Strawberry Fayre (Ice Cream)
	3 Piccalilli
	1 Lemon Pickle
	1 Boston Pickle
	1 Fruit Chutney
Informal	1 Beef Risotto
Informal	1 Aspirin Tablets B.P. 300 mg.
	1 Coca-cola Coke
	1 Light Sponge with strawberry jam and vanilla flavour filling
	1 Trifle Sponge
	1 Grapefruit Segments in heavy syrup
Informal	1 Seven Rubbing Oils
Informal	1 Bi-carbonate of Soda B.P.
Informal	1 Zinc and Castor Oil Cream
	1 Clear Mixed Pickles
	1 Pickled Onions
Informal	1 Chopped Pork

Informal	1 Ice Pops
Informal	1 Steak and Kidney Pudding
Informal	1 Small Grilling Mushrooms in brine
Informal	1 Beef Curry with vegetable and beef
Informal	1 Beef Casserole with suet dumplings
	1 Cream of Tomato Soup
	1 Cream of Chicken Soup
	1 Whole Potatoes (tinned)
	1 Table Vil-vin
	1 Daiquiri Rum 70° proof
	1 Gold Tankard Beer
Informal	1 Golden Export Beer
	1 Ground Almonds
	1 Shredded Beef Suet with fine flour
	3 Christmas Puddings
	1 Dairy Custard
	2 Cut Mixed Peel
	1 Blackcurrants in heavy syrup
Informal	1 Ready-mix Ice Cream Mixture
Informal	1 Red Salmon
Informal	1 Peeled Shrimps in brine
	2 Tea
	1 Creamed Rice Milk Pudding
	1 Creamed Macaroni Milk Pudding
	1 Creamed Tomato Soup containing fresh cream
	1 Sunflower Cooking Oil
	1 Crystal Barley Sugar
	1 Crystal Mints
	1 Extra Strong Mints
	1 Ground Cinnamon
	1 Curry Powder
	1 Ground Nutmegs
	1 Marzipan
	1 Demerara Sugar
	1 Currants
	1 Australian Sultanas
	1 Alpen (Mixed cereal with fruit and nuts)
Informal	1 Shrimps
Informal	1 Medium Red Salmon
	1 Whole Lemon Drink
	1 Low Calorie Lemon Drink
	1 Ginger Cordial
	1 Cooking Oil
	1 Corned Beef

All samples were certified to be of genuine quality with the exception of the following :—

Beef sausage containing preservative which was found unfit for consumption due to growth of penicillin mould and a letter of caution was sent to the vendor.

7. Registration of Premises

The number and types of registered premises in the District are as follows :—

Ice Cream	....	....	....	....	80
Preserved Foods	....	....	....	....	4
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	11

(C) Housing

1. Building Progress

The number of houses built in the District during the year was as follows :—

Houses built by private enterprise	190
Houses built by Council	258

The number of houses built in the District since 1945 was as follows :—

	By Council	By Private Enterprise	Total
1945-54	608	264	872
1955-64	693	1799	2492
1965-71	809	1105	1194

Work continued on the erection of houses at Ravensworth Road, Dunston, during the year.

2. Private Housing

No slum clearance work was carried out during the year and no individual unfit houses were dealt with.

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

- (a) Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action Nil
- (b) Number of houses closed as a result of formal action Nil
- (c) Number of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which was temporarily postponed.... Nil
- (d) Number of houses in use as temporary accommodation Nil

Reconditioning and Repair.

Details of houses made fit during the year are as follows :—

- (a) As a result of informal action 49
- (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice Nil
- (c) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

Housing Act, 1969

Improvement Grants —

Applications		Number of Separate Houses	
		Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
(a)	Applications submitted to Local Authority during 1971	127	89
(b)	Applications rejected by Local Authority during 1971	—	—
(c)	Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	299	654
(d)	Total number of grants paid since inception of scheme	212	472

Qualification Certificates

During the year, landlords of houses satisfying the qualifying conditions laid down in the Housing Act, 1969 continued to apply to the Council for Qualification Certificates to enable Controlled Tenancies to become Regulated Tenancies with rents registered by the Rent Officer.

By the end of the year, 28 further applications had been received, 88 has been approved and 6 refused by the Council. Two applications had been received for Provisional Qualification Certificates which allow a fair rent to be registered before improvements are carried out to a house where a controlled tenancy exists. One of these applications and an application received in 1970 were approved by the Council.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received for certificates of disrepair and there are no certificates in operation in the District.

Overcrowding.

Where cases of overcrowding are reported to the Council, efforts are made to deal with these as quickly as possible. 27 families being rehoused during the year to abate overcrowding.

3. Council Housing

Housing Progress.

At the beginning of the year, 1,025 applications for council accommodation had been received or renewed. On investigation, it was found that 30% of the applicants would benefit from being rehoused, the main reasons being the lack of hot water systems, baths and indoor toilets in the properties, the lack of these amenities causing particular hardship amongst the elderly.

During 1971, 272 new houses were completed and a further 64 became available for re-letting.

Allocations : Council Houses.

Comparative Figures, 1958-1971.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Tenancies Allocated	291	349	146	164	248	153	494	218	297	270	374	455	379	564
New Houses Let	129	124	—	—	71	—	171	53	90	56	84	206	113	272

564 tenancies were allocated of which 166 were exchanges and 72 tenancy transfers.

Analysis of Allocations

Table 1 — Main Reasons for Allocations

Unfit Houses	Exchanges to more suitable accommodation	Tenancy Transfers to surviving family	General Need	Total
2	166	72	324	264

Table 2 — Size of Houses Allocated

2-Roomed	3-Roomed	4-Roomed	5-Roomed	Single-Persons	Aged Persons	Total
133	215	158	11	19	28	564

Table 3 — Summary of Exchanges

Better Accommodation	To facilitate modernisation	To be near relatives	To remedy over-crowding	To remedy under-occupation	Outside District	Medical reasons	Total
16	20	27	27	41	9	26	166

Sub-Tenants.

Sub tenancies are only allowed by permission of the Council. Permission is usually granted for 6 months and must be renewed thereafter. Except in certain cases, an extra 50p per week is charged per adult.

Applications considered during 1971.

		Granted	Refused	Total
New Cases	....	44	3	47
Renewals	....	21	—	21

Demand for Council Houses.

At the end of 1971, the number of applicants on the waiting list was 1,019 compared with 1,025 at the end of 1970.

A breakdown of details of housing applications are shown on pages 50 and 51.

Housing Allocations Committee.

This Committee, composed of 7 councillors and the Housing and Welfare Officer, met monthly to assist in Housing Allocation.

Evictions.

No cases of eviction of families from Council dwelling houses took place in 1971.

Modernisation of Pre-War Council Houses.

The modernisation of pre-war council houses in Dunston, Swalwell and Whickham Wards continued and, during the year, this work on a further 120 houses was completed.

BREAKDOWN of HOUSING A

WARD	2 Bedroom Type		Total	3 Bedroom Type		Total	4 Bedr
	Need for rehousing	No need for rehousing		Need for rehousing	No need for rehousing		Need for rehousin
Dunston	45	299	344	19	59	78	3
Swalwell	50	86	136	11	6	17	—
Whickham	9	99	108	2	13	15	—
Marley Hill	6	61	67	2	6	8	—
Total	110	545	655	34	84	118	3

ICATIONS at 31st DECEMBER, 1971

Type No need for rehousing	Total	Aged person Type		Total	Single person Type		Total	Total
		Need for rehousing	No need for rehousing		Need for rehousing	No need for rehousing		
2	5	13	36	49	17	28	45	521
—	—	15	5	20	11	12	23	196
—	—	8	19	27	6	38	44	194
—	—	5	11	16	4	13	17	108
2	5	41	71	112	38	91	129	1019

Appendix

Factories Act, 1961.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1971 for the Urban District of Whickham in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	83	36	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	13	5	—	—
Total 	97	43	1	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	—	—	—

Outworkers

There is one outworker employed in the District engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

No contraventions of the Act were noted and no cases of default in sending in lists of outworkers to the Council were reported.

No occasions arose for the service of notices or for prosecution under the Act.

List of Byelaws in force in the District

1. New Streets and Buildings and Alterations to Buildings.
2. Nuisances.
3. Nuisances in Connection with the Removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters.
4. Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the Removal of House Refuse, and the Cleansing of Earth-Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.
5. Slaughterhouses.
6. Houses let in Lodgings or Occupied by Members of More than One Family.
7. Common Lodging-houses.
8. Regulation of Certain Offensive Trades.
9. Management of a Mortuary.
10. Prevention of Danger from Whirligigs and Swings, and from the use of Firearms in Shooting Ranges and Galleries.
11. Decent Conduct of Persons using Sanitary Conveniences.
12. Management of Sanitary Conveniences.
13. Telegraph and Other Wires.
14. Building Byelaws.
15. Building Byelaws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.
16. Cemetery.
17. Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milk Shops.
18. Recreation Grounds.
19. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.
20. Wireless Installation.
21. Fouling of Footways by Dogs.
22. Byelaws regulating Swimming Baths under Control of Local Authority made under Section 223 of the Public Health Act, 1936.
23. Byelaws regulating the use of Dunston, Swalwell and Whickham Chase Parks, and Watergate Welfare Ground.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John A. Dryden, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. Hall, D.M.A., Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board; Cert. of R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods; Diploma of R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

DEPUTY SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. Johnson, Cert. of the P.H.I.E.B., Diploma of the R.S.H. for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods; Diploma of R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. H. Scott, Diploma of the P.H.I.E. Board (Appointed 1st July, 1971)

HOUSING AND WELFARE OFFICER

J. Huxley

CLERK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. M. Crowe

TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANT

Mrs. O. Massey

RODENT OPERATIVE AND DISINFECTION OFFICER (part-time)

J. Johnson

